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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/609,057

06/30/2000

John Douglas Wulf

C4-903A

1480

26799

7590

07/30/2004

IP LEGAL DEPARTMENT
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EXAMINER

WHIPKEY, JASON T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2612

DATE MAILED: 07/30/2004

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/609,057

Applicant(s)

WULF ET AL.

Examiner

Jason T. Whipkey

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 11-24 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3 and 4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2 and 5-10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 June 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

3. Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones (U.S. Patent No. 6,234,691) in view of Paff (U.S. Patent No. 4,833,534).

Regarding claim 1, Jones discloses an in-ceiling mount for a surveillance camera, as shown in Figure 1. The device includes backbox 10 ("a camera housing") that receives platform 50 ("a video surveillance camera chassis"), which holds the camera (column 2, lines 24 and 40-42). Backbox 10 fits into a circular aperture in a ceiling (column 2, lines 29-30). As shown in

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Figure 4, the bottom of backbox 10 includes bottom flange 23 (column 2, line 31). Backbox 10 is held in the ceiling by spring clips 19 (“a plurality of mounting clamps”), which flex (“a first position”) from their original position (“a second position”) in order to allow backbox 10 be inserted into the hole in the ceiling (column 2, lines 27-30; column 3, lines 32-35).

Jones is silent with regard to including an electrical connector on the upper end of the housing.

Paff also discloses an in-ceiling mount for a surveillance camera, as shown in figures 1A and 3. Connectors 32, 34, and 35 transfer data between the camera and monitoring station 1 (column 6, lines 20-25). An advantage to locating electrical connections on top of the camera housing is that the housing may be easily placed in the ceiling without the wiring interfering with the fit — which would be a problem, for example, if the connections were located on the side of the housing. For this reason, it would have been obvious at the time of invention to have Jones’s housing include electrical connections on top of backbox 10.

Regarding claim 3, Jones teaches that his housing has a top 11 (column 2, line 24).

4. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones in view of Paff and further in view of Kubacki (U.S. Patent No. 4,096,315).

Claim 4 may be treated like claim 1. Additionally, Jones teaches that dome window 56 is attached to the bottom of the housing for covering the camera. Dome window 56 is acrylic (column 3, lines 54-55). Jones is silent, however, with regard to the method of manufacturing the dome window.

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Kubacki discloses a process for treating optical plastic. Kubacki teaches that optical devices may be formed from thermal plastics by injection molding (column 1, lines 18-19). As stated in column 1, lines 20-27, advantages to using the injection molding process include ease of manufacture, as no milling, grinding, or polishing is necessary once the product is removed from the mold. For this reason, it would have been obvious at the time of invention to have Jones's dome window formed by injection molding.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 2 and 5-10 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Regarding claim 2, no prior art could be located that teaches or fairly suggests a camera housing with repositionable mounting claims adjustable in such a way that compression may be applied to a ceiling member.

Regarding claims 5-10, no prior art could be located that teaches or fairly suggests a camera chassis with a plurality of releasable shoulder members movable between two positions, wherein a first position applies pressure to a plurality of engagement flanges on the interior of a camera housing and a second position allows the chassis to be removed from the housing.

6. Claims 11-24 allowed.

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No prior art could be located that teaches or fairly suggests a camera chassis with a plurality of releasable shoulder members movable between two positions, wherein a first position applies pressure to a plurality of engagement flanges on the interior of a camera housing and a second position allows the chassis to be removed from the housing.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jason T. Whipkey, whose telephone number is (703) 305-1819. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. eastern daylight time, alternating Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wendy R. Garber, can be reached on (703) 305-4929. The fax phone number for the organization where this application is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JTW

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July 22, 2004


TUAN HO
PRIMARY EXAMINER